

Child Safeguarding Scenarios

For each scenario, identify whether you feel this is a safeguarding issue and why/why not.

Scenario A

Beth, Aged 8

Beth is known for being an inquisitive and chatty member of the class. Recently, however, you have noticed a complete change in her behaviour. For the last couple of weeks, Beth has been much quieter and withdrawn. You also notice that although it is a very hot summer and Beth wore dresses a few weeks ago, she has recently been consistently wearing clothes that cover her whole body.

Safeguarding Issue?

Why / why not?

Scenario B

James, Aged 16

James is a popular student and is part of a large friendship group. A new pupil, Matthew, has joined the school. You observe how, in the last month, the two of them have been spending a lot of time together separate from James' usual group. Jenny, one of the girls from James' old friendship group, has approached you after class with some concerns. She says that when she tried to approach James to ask why he had suddenly broken off all contact with the group, he got very annoyed and angry. James apparently said that "everyone else is blind to what is going on in Britain" and made comments about how Matthew had made him "see sense". He allegedly made what Jenny interpreted as a threat, saying, "just you wait and see what we have planned".

Safeguarding Issue?

Why / why not?

Scenario C

A'isha, Aged 13

A'isha is known to be disruptive during class. Behavioural concerns have been raised in the past. The DSL believes that due to her parents' recent divorce A'isha has been acting out at school as a way to get attention from others. During breaktime, you witness A'isha showing her friends her new mobile phone and telling them how her boyfriend bought it for her as a gift. As you leave work later that day you see A'isha kissing someone who looks at least 18 years old. A'isha and her friends then all get into the car and the 'boyfriend' drives off.

Safeguarding Issue?

Why / why not?

Scenario D

Freddie, Aged 17

Freddie is one of your Sixth Form pupils who you have taught History lessons to for the last five years. You notice how he has recently become more vocal and has seemingly gained confidence in class. During a lesson, Freddie and his friends are talking loudly amongst themselves. As you go over to them, you see that they are looking at a picture of one of the school's female teachers on a mobile phone. The photo is sexually explicit and when you ask who the phone belongs to, you learn that it is Freddie's. After class, Freddie tells you that the teacher sent the picture to him and that they have met up outside of school on a few occasions.

Safeguarding Issue?

Why / why not?